

Administered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards® (NBPTS®), National Board Certification and *Take One!* are both eligible for Title I and Title II funding, as defined by the U.S. Department of Education, as part of a system "for identifying and training highly effective teachers to serve as instructional leaders in Title I school-wide programs and modifying the school schedule to allow for collaboration among the instructional staff." Both offer strong and cost-effective professional development that leads to increased student learning and achievement.

NBPTS has provided the following responses to frequently asked questions about using federal funding for *Take One!* and National Board Certification.

### **How does National Board Certification and *Take One!* align with Title I funding?**

The purpose of *Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs* is to ensure that children in high-poverty schools meet challenging state academic content and student achievement standards. Schools eligible for Title I funds must develop a comprehensive plan to improve teaching and learning.

National Board Certification and *Take One!* are site-based, job-embedded, research-based professional development programs that improve student achievement and learning and develop effective teachers—especially in high-need schools. Students of NBCTs outperform students of non-NBCTS on achievement tests, and the positive impact of NBCTs is even greater for minority students. (Goldhaber and Anthony, 2004; Cavalluzzo, 2004) Schools that participated in *Take One!* in several states reported a positive impact on student test scores. A large majority of teachers in high-need schools that participated in *Take One!* report that the program improved the quality of their instructional planning and implementation by enhancing their approach to analyzing and reflecting on their teaching practices. (Learning Point Associates, 2008)

### **How does National Board Certification and *Take One!* align with Title II funding?**

The purpose of *Title II, Part A* is to increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools and districts improve teacher and principal quality and ensuring that all teachers are highly qualified.

In a Congressionally-mandated report, the National Research Council of the National Academies confirmed that National Board Certification has a positive impact on student achievement, teacher retention and professional development. Schools that have participated in *Take One!* in Georgia, California, and Virginia, for example, report that test scores are improving. National Board Certification and *Take One!* help ensure that teachers' professional development needs not only will be met but also will be aligned to challenging national standards of what an accomplished teacher should know and be able to do to improve student learning.

### **Who is eligible to participate in *Take One!* and National Board Certification?**

While licensed teachers and school counselors with at least three years experience are eligible to become candidates for National Board Certification, individual educators, a school faculty and

an entire district can participate in *Take One!* As professional development, *Take One!* offers the opportunity for educators to learn the teaching standards associated with his/her teaching area and also work in a collaborative environment in submitting one of the entries associated with National Board Certification.

**How do I notify NBPTS that I will pay for teachers going through either National Board Certification or *Take One!*?**

All a district needs is a purchase order with the names of the teachers who applied for either National Board Certification or *Take One!*. The National Board has a simple form for districts to complete which you can receive directly from NBPTS.

**I know I will have teachers who would like to become candidates for National Board Certification or participate in *Take One!*. I'm not sure who is interested at this point. Can I prefund the purchase of "seats?"**

NBPTS can "reserve" seats for the following school year, and, in many cases, can carry over funds to even a subsequent year. This approach will give you the time to meet with your staff and elicit support, knowing that any teacher ready to pursue this process can be funded.

**Are other schools and districts using these funds for *Take One!* and National Board Certification?**

Many schools and districts across the country are already using Title I funds for *Take One!* and National Board Certification—and report the creation of rich learning communities and improvements in student learning and achievement. In addition to Title I and Title II funding, schools and districts are to use funding for *Take One!* and National Board Certification under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) that will provide not only increased levels of Title I funding but also additional funding opportunities in the next few years.

**Please contact NBPTS via e-mail at [customer\\_support@nbpts.org](mailto:customer_support@nbpts.org).** Visit the NBPTS Web site ([www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)), for more information about [\*Take One!\*](#) or [National Board Certification](#).